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Industrial Disputes, Australia

This publication contains the quarterly estimates of employees involved and working days lost from industrial disputes

Reference period June 2019

Released 5/09/2019

On this page

[Main features](#)

[Tables](#)

[Data downloads](#)

[Methodology](#)

Main features

June key statistics

The Industrial Disputes release provides statistics monitoring the level of industrial disputation in Australia.

Quarterly estimates

- 44 disputes occurred, no change from the previous quarter.
- 20,200 employees were involved, an increase from 9,300 in the previous quarter.
- 17,600 working days were lost, an increase from 16,600 in the previous quarter.
- More than five in ten (56%) working days lost were in the Construction industry.
- More than four in ten (44%) working days lost were in Victoria.

Year ended estimates

- 170 disputes occurred, 6 more than in the previous year.
- 112,500 working days were lost, 2% more than the previous year.

	Quarter		Year ended	
	March 2019	June 2019	June 2018	June 2019
Number of disputes				
Commenced in period (no.)	32	34	147	163
Total (no.)	44	44	164	170
Employees involved				
Newly involved ('000)	7.8	18.8	39.2	65.8
Total ('000)	9.3	20.2	41.0	66.0
Working days lost ('000)	16.6	17.6	110.0	112.5

Working days lost, Australia



Tables

1 Industrial disputes which occurred during the quarter

	Number of disputes		Employees involved		
	Commenced in period	Total	Newly involved	Total	Working days lost
	no.	no.	'000	'000	'000
June Quarter 2017	41	49	22.7	27.8	40.2
September Quarter 2017	40	57	6.3	8.1	45.9
December Quarter 2017	46	67	14.7	17.1	36.7
March Quarter 2018	19	24	3.8	4.0	14.9
June Quarter 2018	42	48	14.4	14.6	12.5
September Quarter 2018	44	51	13.6	13.8	47.4
December Quarter 2018	53	62	25.6	28.8	30.9
March Quarter 2019	32	44	7.8	9.3	16.6
June Quarter 2019	34	44	18.8	20.2	17.6

2 Industrial disputes which occurred during the quarter, industry

	March Quarter 2019		June Quarter 2019	
	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees
	'000	no.	'000	no.
Mining				
Coal mining	np	np	-	-
Other mining	-	-	-	-
Manufacturing				
Metal product etc(a)	1.0	3.5	np	np
Other manufacturing	np	np	np	np
Construction	4.9	5.3	9.9	10.5
Transport, postal and warehousing	7.2	12.1	1.3	2.4
Education and training; Health care and social assistance	0.1	0.1	1.1	0.4
Other industries(a)	2.9	0.5	3.7	0.6
All industries	16.6	1.4	17.6	1.5

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

a. See Glossary - Industry - for details of industries included.

3 Industrial disputes which occurred during the quarter, states and territories

	March Quarter 2019		June Quarter 2019	
	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees
	'000	no.	'000	no.
New South Wales	10.5	2.8	3.4	0.9
Victoria	2.3	0.8	7.8	2.5
Queensland	2.7	1.2	5.2	2.3
South Australia	np	np	np	np
Western Australia	np	np	np	np
Tasmania	0.2	0.9	1.0	4.4
Northern Territory	-	0.1	np	np
Australian Capital Territory	-	0.1	np	np
Australia	16.6	1.4	17.6	1.5

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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4 Industrial disputes which ended during the quarter

December Quarter 2018				March Quarter 2019		
	Total Number of Disputes	Total Employees Involved	Working days Lost	Total Number of Disputes	Total Employees Involved	Working days Lost
	no.	'000	'000	no.	'000	'000
CAUSE OF DISPUTE						
Enterprise Bargaining (EB) related						
Remuneration	14	np	np	7	1.1	4.5
Employment conditions (EB)	26	12.9	11.5	16	2.2	6.2
Other EB related-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-EB related						
Remuneration	-	-	-	1	np	np
Employment conditions	2	np	np	-	-	-
Health and safety	2	0.1	0.1	9	4.3	6.3
Job security	3	np	np	-	-	-
Managerial policy	-	-	-	-	-	-
Union issues	-	-	-	1	np	np
Other Non EB related	2	11.4	7.6	-	-	-
Total	49	27.0	28.8	34	7.6	17.0
WORKING DAYS LOST PER EMPLOYEE INVOLVED						
Up to and including 1 day	28	24.0	14.6	14	4.9	3.4
Over 1 day and up to including 2 days	8	np	np	6	0.9	1.7
Over 2 and less than 5 days	4	0.6	1.6	7	0.9	2.7
5 and less than 10 days	3	np	np	4	0.7	5.2
10 days and over	6	0.3	5.0	3	0.2	4.0
Total	49	27.0	28.8	34	7.6	17.0
REASON WORK RESUMED						
Negotiation without intervention of a third party	8	1.4	8.8	4	np	np
State legislation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal legislation	-	-	-	2	0.4	3.3
Pre-determined return to work	37	25.5	19.9	22	3.1	8.9
Resumption without negotiation	2	np	np	5	0.5	0.4
Mediation	2	np	np	1	np	np
Other reasons	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	49	27.0	28.8	34	7.6	17.0

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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Inquiries

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

Data downloads

Table 1: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period

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[67 KB]

Table 2a: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost, industry

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[77.5 KB]

Table 2b: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost per thousand employees, industry

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[75 KB]

Table 3a: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost, states and territories

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[121.5 KB]

Table 3b: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost per thousand employees, states and territories

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[111 KB]

Table 4a: Industrial disputes which ended during the period, cause of dispute

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Table 4b: Industrial disputes which ended during the period, working days lost per employee involved

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[121 KB]

Table 4c: Industrial disputes which ended during the period, reason work resumed

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Methodology

[Industrial Disputes, Australia methodology, June 2019](#)